

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION ACTIVITIES 1

PRIORITY: DISRUPTION OF DRUG AND CRIMINAL NETWORKS 6

State Major Narcotics Bureau	7
County Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Task Forces	10
Money Laundering Initiative	14
State Police Criminal Street Gang Unit	16
Regional Gang Suppression	19
Computer Analysis and Technology Unit	21

PRIORITY: COMMUNITY BASED PARTNERSHIPS 23

Police Community Partnership Programs	24
Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiatives	26
Paterson Village Initiative	27

PRIORITY: SAFE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES 29

Local Safe Schools and Communities Projects	30
Statewide Gang Awareness and Prevention	35

PRIORITY: DRUG TREATMENT 38

Mountainview Therapeutic Community Program (NuView)	39
Treatment Assessment Services for the Courts (TASC)	41

PRIORITY: CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS 43

Criminal Justice Records Improvements	44
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PRIORITY: LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AND TRAINING 46

Advocacy Institute	47
The Rutgers Police Institute	47
Specialized Law Enforcement Training.	58

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Prevalence of Addiction of the New Jersey State Inmate
Appendix B: Newark Student Gang and Drug Awareness Survey

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2003 NEW JERSEY ANNUAL REPORT

BYRNE MEMORIAL FORMULA BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

New Jersey's Byrne Formula Grant Program provides critical resources to support a wide variety of programs that span the criminal justice system. The state maximizes its federal funding through non-traditional partnerships, multi-agency initiatives, and innovative responses to public safety issues. The following summary highlights accomplishments of New Jersey's Byrne Program for the period of July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003.

DISRUPTION OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND CRIMINAL NETWORKS

New Jersey's Drug and Law Enforcement Task Forces investigate and prosecute narcotics trafficking, criminal street gang activity, money laundering, and computer/high technology crimes.

- Seven teams of state investigators and prosecutors assigned to high-crime urban areas as part of State's *Gangs, Guns, and Drugs* Initiative; 19 individuals arrested for drug diversion offenses; 30 handlers and canines certified in narcotics, explosive, and arson detection; 19 persons arrested in Columbian cocaine trafficking operation; State Police "Quality of Life" Task Force arrested 1,455 street dealers and seized 59 weapons.
- 3,551 drug arrests by county narcotics task forces; \$2,601,704 in cash and 240 weapons seized; 2,205 ounces of cocaine, 293 ounces of crack, 650 ounces of heroin, 5,349 pounds of marijuana, and 19,242 units of Ecstasy removed from streets.
- Money Laundering Unit opens 52 cases, closes 29 cases; 14 persons arrested, five individuals sentenced to state prison; \$2,568,429 in court-ordered restitution.
- State Police Street Gang Unit expands from eight to 28 investigators, three regional offices established; 4,365 individuals attend gang awareness training seminars; Unit conducts 84 investigations and 46 special operations; State indicts 41 members of the Latin Kings on racketeering charges.

- Grant funds awarded for three county gang suppression units; 1,488 gang members and associates identified; 166 gang members arrested; units conduct 323 gang awareness presentations in local communities.
- Computer Crimes and Technology Unit opens 41 cases, executes 12 search warrants, arrests 24 individuals, examines 142 computers/1,156 computer discs; 16 state grand jury indictments for computer-related crimes.

COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERSHIPS

The state's community-based partnership programs are models of interagency planning and cooperation. These coordinated strategies are reducing crime and improving the quality of life in urban areas.

- Five Police Community Partnership Programs operating in high-crime urban neighborhoods; 54 community police officers hired for designated target areas; 907 young people enrolled in Safe Haven programs; 1,547 violent offenders removed from streets; millions of dollars in neighborhood revitalization projects.
- 238 high-risk probationers and parolees, under intense supervision, receive wide range of social services under the Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiative; \$85,000 average bail for Gun Strategy Pilot Program; 16 percent increase in firearm recovery; overall reduction in violence-related criminal activity in the Newark area.
- Paterson Village Initiative results in 28 percent decline in juvenile crime rate; six percent decline in school drop-out rate; 31 percent decline in juvenile custodial commitments from Passaic County; 65 percent average curfew compliance rate.

SAFE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

The Safe Schools and Communities Initiative addresses public safety issues in selected municipalities. Many programs were developed in partnership with school and community groups to address youth issues. The Initiative also includes a statewide gang education and prevention component.

- 14 new programs implemented addressing school violence, truancy, delinquency, domestic violence and auto theft.
- New Jersey partners with ATF to become the first state in the nation to implement Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) as a statewide initiative; 134 officers certified for G.R.E.A.T. in first round of statewide training program.

- 10,150 inquiries to gang education website.
- 297 Gang Awareness and Prevention Program (GAPP) presentations provided a personal, first hand account of the consequences of gang membership to over 25,000 students, teachers, and community members.
- \$25,000 in mini-grants awarded for youth anti-gang activities.

DRUG TREATMENT

Offenders with substance abuse problems receive needed treatment through the state's courts and correctional systems. Treatment Assessment Services for the Courts (TASC Programs) link drug-using offenders with community-based treatment as an alternative to criminal penalties. Byrne funding also supports a "therapeutic community" treatment program at the Mountainview Correctional facility.

- Three TASC Programs supported with Byrne funds; evaluators conduct 763 assessments; 664 defendants referred to treatment; 405 urine tests; 443 cases monitored by TASC specialists.
- 145 new admissions to NuView treatment program at Mountainview correctional facility; 82 residents currently enrolled; 61 successful completions; program selected for pilot accreditation project by the American Correctional Association.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

New Jersey's Criminal Justice Records Improvement Program (Five-Percent Set-Aside) continues to make enhancements for an integrated state information system.

- 13 live scan fingerprinting workstations purchased for state and local police departments.
- 14 additional live scans installed at county jails to assist with interstate fugitive initiative.
- Department of Corrections adds mugshot component to live scan system.

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND SERVICES

- 1,284 governmental investigators and attorneys participate in 28 training programs conducted by the Advocacy Institute.
- Rutgers Police Institute researches 14 specialized areas of criminal justice policy.
- Over 800 law enforcement officers trained in narcotics and gang investigations through partnerships with the New Jersey Narcotics Enforcement Officers' Association and the East Coast Gang Investigators' Association.

OVERVIEW OF EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

Process evaluations are conducted on all programs funded by the Byrne Formula Block Grant Program. All programs, their stated goals, objectives, and activities are monitored on an ongoing basis through the Program Development Section within the Division of Criminal Justice. A program analyst, assigned to each funded project, is responsible for working with the project director to ensure fiscal and programmatic compliance by each program. The analyst monitors the progress of ongoing project activities via formal and informal site visits as well as with the review of bi-monthly or quarterly programmatic reports. Ongoing technical assistance is provided in the areas of planning, program development, coordination, and partnerships. More comprehensive evaluations are conducted on selected projects.

Drug Court Programs

The five Byrne-funded pilot drug court programs formed the basis for the statewide implementation of drug courts in New Jersey. Valuable information was acquired from the experience of the pilot programs. The Judiciary is using pilot data from the five programs to improve the overall effectiveness and efficiency of New Jersey's statewide drug court system. As the state moves ahead toward full statewide implementation of drug courts, the Drug Court Committee is presently working with American University's Drug Court Clearinghouse and SAS, a privately owned information technology company, to explore evaluation options. SAS is developing a proposal that will interface the two main data sources for drug courts (data from the courts and data from the Department of Health, Division of Addiction Services). At the present time, a comprehensive evaluation of the impact of drug courts is hampered because of the limitations in connecting and analyzing the two sources of data. The capability of interfacing the two systems will provide the analytical tool to evaluate drug court programs in terms of treatment interventions and court-based reporting and supervision.

NuView Therapeutic Community Treatment Program

The New Jersey Department of Corrections (DOC) was selected by the American Correctional Association (ACA) to participate in a pilot accreditation project of its therapeutic community substance abuse treatment program. The Byrne-funded NuView Program will be the site of the pilot project. Currently, DOC staff are working collaboratively to prepare the proper documentation for each of the standards developed by the ACA. The accreditation will be based of six sets of

mandatory and non-mandatory standards. These include safety, security, care, program activities, justice, and administration/management. Participation in the project will allow New Jersey to be among the first correctional facilities in the nation to receive this important accreditation. The DOC's goal is to achieve accreditation for all its treatment programs.

Prevalence of Addiction of the New Jersey State Inmate

The Department of Corrections conducted an analysis of information collected as part of the drug/alcohol addiction evaluation of each incoming inmate. The study assessed the prevalence of addiction of the state's offender population. The Addiction Severity Index (ASI) was used to determine addiction levels and subsequent treatment placement. A copy of the Preliminary Report is included as Appendix A.

Additional Planned Research Projects Relating to Drug Treatment:

- Comparison of walk-away incident rates of those inmates who participated in the in-prison therapeutic community treatment programs versus those who participated only in community release.
- Outcome study examining re-arrest, re-conviction and re-incarceration rates of those released directly from prison in comparison to those who participated in treatment (TC, Community Programs, etc.).
- Working with outside research organizations in their evaluation of the Department of Corrections treatment activities (e.g., the National Development Research Institute's evaluation of the therapeutic community quality review team approach and the National Institute of Drug Abuse data infrastructure project conducted by the University of Delaware).

Witness Assistance Program

The New Jersey Witness Assistance Program will provide assistance to witnesses and victims of criminal activity who "face threats to their safety and security upon public disclosure of their cooperation with law enforcement (Program Description)." The program will allow for prosecution of group members that are not undertaken or are dismissed after indictment due to unavailable or uncooperative witnesses. The knowledge obtained from this program will also provide an understanding into the types of organized and non-traditional criminal groups operating in New Jersey. Case data will be available to classify groups, their basis of operation, types of offenses and other information. Referrals to the program will be made through the twenty-one county

Prosecutors' Offices. Decisions regarding case acceptance, level of protection and types of services offered will be made by the Assistance Review Committee housed within the Division of Criminal Justice.

All applications to the program must be assessed and endorsed by the office of the county prosecutor who has determined that, as a result of testimony deemed pivotal to the prosecution, the witness and/or family members would be at risk of retaliation. The criticality of the testimony, the assessment of witness needs and the cost of meeting those needs will be factors when determining program placement.

Services required may be as minimal as temporary housing or as all encompassing as relocation with identity changes for the witness and his/her entire family. This requires responses, which may include, but are not limited to, housing, welfare or unemployment applications, school transfers, employment assistance, transference of medical records, Social Security benefits, etc.

Specifically, the impact study will examine the contribution of the State Witness Assistance Program to prosecutions and convictions. Each prosecutor, at the time program services are requested, will give an assessment of the case via a questionnaire. Information will be obtained regarding the likelihood of case outcomes given the caveat that the case is not accepted into the program. The research team will track the prosecutorial handling of accepted cases as well as those not accepted into the program. For those cases not accepted, comparisons will be made between the assessment questionnaire and actual case processing. Similarities and differences between assessment instrument indicators/assumptions and the actual management and outcome of cases should aid in the possible verification of the accuracy of assessments and the level of significance of the program on case prosecution. After controlling for relevant variables such as level of threat, case type, other case evidence etc., the study will look for significant differences in case outcomes (convictions, charges, sentences, sentence length, etc.) between the accepted and non-accepted groups.

The study will also follow witnesses to document breaches of their Witness Assistance Program agreement. Violations of program rules and regulations, risky behaviors, and intentional dropouts will be noted. Other information such as the actual discovery of a witness by those posing threats and new criminal activity while participating in the program will also be collected.

Policies and procedures of the 21 counties and the Acceptance Committee will be reviewed as

the program is implemented and again at the end of the study. These reviews will examine what adjustments were made, over time, to improve the delivery of program services.

Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiative (GNSCI)

The GNSCI evaluation is based on an action research model, with a corresponding form of responsive evaluation, designed to meet the needs of an ongoing problem-solving initiative. This method of research and evaluation calls for the evaluation staff to engage actively with actors collaborating on the project, to monitor from the very beginning processes through which the project is planned and implemented, and to offer continuous feedback to participants that facilitates adjustment in strategy and tactics. The goals and methodology inherent in action research and responsive evaluation are particularly appropriate to the GNSCI, where the Working Group and program staff are continuously engaged in the collection and analysis of data and crafting of tactics appropriate to addressing fluid crime patterns and problems.

The intent of the evaluation is twofold. First, evaluation staff members are recording and documenting the dynamics of the GNSCI, the processes by which it was created, and methods by which it has gone about identifying problems and implementing interventions. This process evaluation is important for descriptive purposes as well as for providing an historical account of the group's development of an effective partnership and problem-solving course of action. Second, researchers are documenting and analyzing the impact of the tactics adopted and interventions planned and implemented by GNSCI members. This impact evaluation will help determine those interventions/tactics that are most effective, those that should be altered or eliminated, and those that warrant future replication. Two major portions of the impact evaluation include: 1) an analysis of the GNSCI "At-Risk" program to determine its impact on recidivism among those who have been identified as at-risk of violence in the Newark area, and 2) an analysis of the GNSCI "Gun Strategy" to determine the effectiveness of more efficient bail proceedings on gun carrying and gun violence.

Newark Safe Schools and Communities

Prior to implementing their Safe Schools and Communities Program, the Newark Police Department conducted a Student Gang and Drug Awareness Survey. The survey examined the students' attitudes and perceptions of gangs, drugs, and their attendant circumstances in four Newark high schools. Data was drawn from anonymous student surveys administered in October 2002. The results of the survey indicated that 1) gangs are either emerging or established, 2) high school

students are both exposed to, and likely to be involved in gang activity, and 3) certain high schools serve as a platform for certain gang behavior. The report that was generated is a useful tool to adjust enforcement strategies and to design programs to counter the effects of gangs within the Newark public school system. A follow-up survey will be conducted to measure the students' attitudes and perceptions of gangs after the Safe Schools Project is completed. A copy of the initial report is included as Appendix B.

DISRUPTION OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND CRIMINAL NETWORKS

State Major Narcotics Bureau	\$1.9 million
County Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Task Forces	\$5.4 million
Money Laundering Initiative	\$420,000
State Police Criminal Street Gang Unit	\$135,716
Regional Gang Suppression Units	\$690,000
Computer Analysis and Technology	\$450,000

Program Title: State Major Narcotics Program

The Major Narcotics Bureau serves as the lead state agent in matters relating to narcotics enforcement and violent crime associated with the narcotics trade. The Major Narcotics Bureau is composed of personnel from the Divisions of Criminal Justice and State Police. It is primarily responsible for the investigation and prosecution of major narcotics networks and for specialized narcotics and gang enforcement. The Task Force operates cooperatively with the 21 county narcotics task forces in New Jersey and with other state and federal law enforcement agencies.

The **Gangs, Guns, and Drugs Initiative** was launched in May 2002 with the reorganization of the Major Narcotics Bureau. The Initiative is being focused in seven cities that are hardest hit by drug and violent crime problems (Newark and surrounding areas, Jersey City, Paterson, Elizabeth, Trenton, Camden, and Atlantic City). Teams of state investigators and prosecutors have been assigned to the areas, and are working with county narcotics task forces, federal enforcement agencies, and the HIDTA organizations to target major narcotics rings, weapons dealers, and organized street gangs.

The **Drug Diversion Squad** conducts proactive and reactive criminal investigations and prosecutions related to the diversion of pharmaceutical prescribed and controlled dangerous substances. The Unit supports the regulatory investigative function in the review of diversion allegations; provides for the coordination of cases, dissemination of information and training for county investigators on diversion issues; and investigates and prosecutes cases which may have a significant impact on the professional community and/or the public. The Unit also investigates and prosecutes cases involving the unlawful obtaining and distribution of pharmaceutical controlled dangerous substances by registrants.

The **Top Gun Training Squad** plays a critical role in developing and implementing specialized training programs relating to the investigation and prosecution of narcotics cases.

The New Jersey State Police/Statewide Narcotics Task Force established a standardized **Scent Dog Training Program** for the certification of narcotics detector dogs and their handlers. Through school and civic presentations this initiative expands and enhances the demand reduction efforts of the Statewide Narcotics Task Force.

Operation Calico is a long-term, proactive initiative targeting the cocaine trafficking and money laundering activities of the Columbian cocaine cartels. This project is spearheaded by the New Jersey State Police Narcotics and Organized Crime Bureau, and it combines the investigative resources of a number of law enforcement agencies in the northern New Jersey/New York area. Grant funds supplement the tactical and logistical needs of Operation Calico.

The **Cooperative Enforcement Initiative** provides tactical support by New Jersey State Police officers to county narcotics task forces and local law enforcement agencies to target street-level and mid-level narcotics trafficking operations. A “Quality of Life” Task Force provides rapid response to crime and drug trafficking occurring in a given locale. Officers are also actively involved in the Camden Anti-Crime Partnership which was instituted in May 2002.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

Gangs, Guns, and Drugs Initiative

- Gangs, Guns, and Drugs Initiative launched in May 2002
- 40 state investigators, 12 prosecuting attorneys assigned to seven cities hardest hit by drugs and violent crime
- Investigations result in 533 arrests, 38 weapons removed, \$900,000 in cash seized
- Drugs removed from street - 90 kilograms of cocaine/crack, 20 kilograms of heroin, 5,000 pounds of marijuana, 4.5 kilos plus 8,000 additional Ecstasy pills.

Drug Diversion Squad

- 123 cases opened, 130 cases closed
- 19 arrests
- 9 search warrants
- 18 consensual recordings
- 11 complaints/warrants
- 5 indictments, 6 accusations
- 7 individuals sentenced
- New legislation doubles fines for selling or possessing club-drugs

Top Gun Training Squad

- Three, week-long Top Gun training classes, 222 participants
- One Drug Unit Supervisor's class, 21 participants
- One Undercover Narcotics Investigative class, 31 participants

Scent Dog Training

- Two, 20-week training courses
- 30 handlers and canines certified in narcotics, explosive, and arson detection
- Seizure of CDS valued in excess of \$1,520,733
- Seizure of \$919,108 in U.S. currency
- 113 community demand reduction presentations

Calico Initiative

- 20 investigations initiated
- 19 persons arrested
- \$258,283 in currency seized
- Drugs seized: 157 kilograms of cocaine; 17 grams of heroin; 460 pounds of marijuana; 4,600 tablets of Ecstasy. Value of narcotics seized: \$4,845,700

Cooperative Enforcement Initiative

- 1,445 individuals arrested
- \$225,312 in currency seized
- Drugs seized: 3 kilograms of cocaine; 1.3 kilograms of crack; 1 kilogram of heroin; 30.7 pounds of marijuana; 3,392 tablets of Ecstasy; 250 tablets of LSD; 186 vials of steroids; 109 Oxycontin tablets. Value of drugs: seized \$393,933
- 71 weapons seized

Program Title: County Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Task Forces

The 21 county narcotics task forces, each under the operational control of the county prosecutor, form the cornerstone of narcotics enforcement in New Jersey. The diverse narcotics crimes committed within each unique geographical area of the State are targeted by the county narcotics task force having jurisdiction in the area. Each task force is comprised of members from the county prosecutor's office, the county sheriff's office, and local law enforcement personnel. In many instances, task force investigations also include personnel from federal and state agencies. Through county task forces, prosecutors' offices also conduct and coordinate countywide education, prevention and public awareness programs.

Although primarily a narcotics enforcement operation, the task forces have expanded their efforts to include violent crimes, particularly violent crimes associated with urban and gang-related narcotics activity. They also participate in Police/Community Partnership Programs by providing investigative and prosecutorial resources for the Violent Offender Removal Program (VORP) component of the Partnership Programs.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

The cumulative statistics of the 21 county task forces for the reporting period are as follows: arrests - 3,551; cash and assets seized - \$2,601,704; drugs removed from street - 2,205 ounces of cocaine, 293 ounces of crack, 650 ounces of heroin, 5,349 pounds of marijuana, 19,242 dosage units of Ecstasy; weapons removed - 240.

The following are samples of cases undertaken by the various county narcotics task forces. The cases demonstrate the high degree of coordination required among local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Also noted are the cumulative number of arrests for the county task forces for the time period of July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003.

The Bergen County Narcotics Task Force had a 33 percent increase in the number of investigations initiated this year, and an increase of 29 percent in the number of arrests. Efforts concentrated on upper level drug distributors. Task force personnel worked cooperative operations with the DEA and the United States Customs Service. Municipal, county, and federal enforcement

officials also joined task force operations and assisted the county's money laundering unit. Twenty-five drug awareness presentations were conducted at high schools throughout the county.

Total number of task force arrests: 404

Burlington County's K9 team assisted federal, state, and municipal police agencies with the execution of over 50 search warrants and pro-active operations that resulted in 72 arrests for various narcotics violations. The K9 team also conducted 14 "school sweeps" at the request of municipal police agencies and school administrators. A ten-month investigation by the task force and Pennsylvania authorities culminated with the execution of six search warrants, the arrest of the two main targets as well as several other individuals, and the seizure of various quantities of drugs, five firearms, and \$96,000 in cash.

Total number of task force arrests: 110

The Camden County Narcotics Task Force experienced two of their most successful investigations to date during the reporting period. As a component of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) operation in the county, and in cooperation with Philadelphia and federal law enforcement authorities, the task force arrested six individuals believed to be the county's largest cocaine importers. The investigation resulted in the seizure of 39 kilos of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$3,000,000, and \$37,000 in cash. The other notable investigation originated from a citizen's tip and resulted in the seizure of 156 marijuana plants, an extensive assortment of grow paraphernalia, three guns, and the arrest of two very high-level marijuana dealers.

Total number of task force arrests: 1,214

Cumberland County Task Force personnel targeted two rival organizations that were involved in drug distribution schemes, homicide and arson. Federal and local drug enforcement agencies have joined the ongoing investigation.

Total number of task force arrests: 356

A highly successful investigation into a heroin distribution ring culminated in the arrest of 16 individuals by the Essex County Task Force, the execution of 14 search warrants, and the seizure of over 10,000 decks of heroin. A second investigation potentially averted a tragedy of immense proportions at a local teen dance club. Initiated as a probe into drug sales and use at the club, the investigation broadened to expose a number of other illegal activities. Several adult employees were arrested on sexual assault charges; and the club was immediately closed due to serious fire and

building code violations.

Total number of task force arrests: 284

The Mercer County Narcotics Task Force initiated 138 investigations covering all aspects of illegal narcotics distribution in the reporting period. Twelve investigations in the city of Trenton in August 2002, resulted in the arrest of 20 individuals on a variety of narcotics violations. Seizures included 5.5 pounds of powder cocaine, 105 grams of “crack”, two pounds of marijuana, 3,000 decks of heroin, and 32 ounces of PCP. Also seized were \$52,000 in cash, six vehicles, and two weapons. Total number of task force arrests: 186

Significant accomplishments of the Morris County Narcotics Unit included arrest warrants for 27 individuals involved in a multi-county cocaine distribution ring; the arrest of a medical doctor and several other individuals involved in a drug diversion scheme in which approximately 45,000 Oxycontin pills were distributed; and multi-agency investigation into a Mexican International Drug Organization.

Total number of task force arrests: 109

In one of its most intense investigations, the Ocean County Strike Force, working in conjunction with local, state, and federal authorities, dismantled a violent drug distribution ring that had been distributing approximately two kilograms of cocaine per month. The network was also responsible for a multitude of related shootings. All of the major players in the organization were arrested.

Total number of task force arrests: 421

In addition to investigating several large scale, multi-agency narcotics distribution cases, the Salem County Narcotics Task Force joined the prosecutor’s Community Justice Unit to establish working partnerships with community leaders, members of the clergy, school administrators, and local law enforcement in an effort to reduce violent crime and drug use the young people in the county.

Total number of task force arrests: 178

In rural Sussex County, the task force concentrated efforts on the rise in the use of LSD and Ecstasy among young people. The distribution of these drugs via the Internet continued to be investigated. Community outreach programs educated parents and school officials on current trends and assisted them in identifying and assisting youth who are involved in illegal drug use.

Total number of task force arrests: 35

Significant cases for the Union County Narcotics Strike Force included the arrest of 52 individuals in the towns of Linden and Roselle for “open-air” drug sales, an investigation into a major cocaine distribution organization in Plainfield, and a joint investigation with the DEA and the Elizabeth Police Department resulting in the arrest of 5 individuals and the seizure of 16 pounds of heroin, \$37,000 in cash, and nine automatic weapons.

Total number of task force arrests: 170

Several investigations into the activities of street gangs have indicated that the Bloods and the Cash Money Boys are the predominant criminal organizations operating in Warren County and neighboring Pennsylvania towns. Task force members continue to work with the FBI Gang Task Force and Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies to arrest gang activity and to maintain an up-to-date database on gang members and their associates. A wiretap operation concluded with the arrest of three high-level gang members on federal narcotics distribution charges.

Total number of task force arrests: 72

Program Title: Money Laundering Initiative

New Jersey's money laundering initiative targets drug profiteers through the use of financial analysis. The Financial Investigations Unit, within the Division of Criminal Justice, investigates money laundering activities, maintains and disseminates information regarding trends in money laundering, and provides training to state and local investigators and attorneys.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- 45 cases referred to Money Laundering Unit for legal/analytical/investigative support
- 52 cases opened, 29 cases closed
- 22 defendants charged in nine State Grand Jury indictments, 13 accusations obtained
- 14 arrests for illegal money laundering activities
- 5 convictions resulting in prison sentences
- Court Ordered Restitution - \$2,568,429

Byrne funding has assisted New Jersey in establishing one of the most comprehensive and innovative money laundering programs in the country. Analysts, state investigators, and prosecutors continued their proactive efforts to combat money laundering crimes. The ongoing investigation and prosecution of several first degree money laundering cases continued during this reporting period. Significant resources were devoted to these highly complex cases that involved multi-million dollar money laundering schemes.

The Unit continued to use FINCEN as an investigative tool. More than 500 records were accessed by New Jersey operators in the past year. The FINCEN Project has been implemented in 18 of the state's 21 counties, and at the State Office of Counter Terrorism. Efforts continue to provide FINCEN access to the state's remaining three counties. Two training sessions on the use of FINCEN were conducted.

Additional accomplishments of the Money Laundering Unit for the reporting period included the development of indicators and criteria to measure suspicious financial activity, and the dissemination of that information to state and county investigators and prosecutors at training seminars; providing money laundering training to federal, state, and county personnel involved in money laundering initiatives; review of Currency Transaction Reports from check cashing businesses and initiating cases based on those reviews where warranted; the entry of several hundred additional records on suspicious financial institutions and individuals; continued participation in the Casino Suspicious Activity Report (SARS) Task Force; the targeting of money laundering transmitters through a joint task force investigation with the U.S. Customs Service; and cooperative investigations and prosecutions with other state and federal enforcement agencies.

Program Title: State Police Criminal Street Gang Unit

The growth in membership and violence associated with gangs is a serious threat that requires innovative solutions. The New Jersey State Police has responded by striking at the organizational infrastructure of the state's most violent, entrenched, and pervasive gangs. The State Police Street Gang Unit provides critical resources for gang suppression efforts in the areas of training, intelligence, and cooperative working relationships with law enforcement agencies, schools, and community groups.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- Offensive against super gangs broadened by expansion of the State Police Street Gang Unit from 8 to 28 investigators, and the establishment of two additional regional offices
- 60 training seminars, including 54 customized presentations; 4,356 participants
- 84 investigations, 28 informants, 141 intelligence reports, 230 investigative reports
- 46 special enforcement operations
- State indicts 41 members of the Latin Kings on racketeering charges

Organizational and policy enhancements to the State Police Street Gang Unit in this reporting period resulted in significant advances in the areas of gang awareness training, investigations, and intelligence gathering. The assignment of 21 additional officers to the Unit allowed the State Police to establish three regional field offices. Formalized working relationships with agencies such as the Juvenile Justice Commission, the New Jersey Department of Corrections, and the North Jersey Gang Task Force (in partnership with the Rutgers Police Institute) further enhanced gang suppression efforts. Partnerships with the parole and correctional officials led to the creation last year of the Gang Reduction and Aggressive Supervision Program (GRASP). This program monitors the

activities of paroled gang members to ensure that they are not violating conditions of parole by associating with gang members. The significant contributions of the State Police Street Gang Unit to the city of Irvington is assisting that community in addressing one of the most serious gang problems in the state.

The training component is the cornerstone of the Street Gang Unit's role in the larger effort to prevent and reduce gang activity in New Jersey. In addition to training criminal justice agencies, the Unit developed an integrated approach to anti-gang education. Recognizing that community-based organizations are directly responsible for the care of at-risk juveniles, the Unit expanded its educational program to include social service and treatment providers, neighborhood associations, faith-based groups, and businesses. Non-law enforcement groups represented 41 percent of the total number of individuals trained in this reporting period.

The implementation of the Statewide Intelligence Management System (SIMS) was another significant advancement of the state's anti-gang strategy. The gang component of this new intelligence database provides for the federally-authorized, electronic dissemination of intelligence information on gangs and known gang members. The web-based system creates a central repository for law enforcement officials to contribute and query gang intelligence information. Access to the system will be expanded to county and municipal law enforcement agencies in the near future.

Two highly successful investigations undertaken in the reporting period resulted in the indictment of 41 members and associates of the Almighty Latin King and Queen Nation (ALKQN); a second ongoing investigation has revealed criminal activities of a multi-state gang operation that include homicide, document fraud, money laundering, international drug trafficking, weapons trafficking, white collar crime, and governmental corruption.

STATE POLICE CRIMINAL STREET GANG UNIT

Statistical Summary Comparison Table			
	LAST REPORTING PERIOD (7/1/01-6/30/02)	THIS REPORTING PERIOD (7/1/02-6/30/03)	% CHANGE
TRAINING			
Training Events	34	60	+ 76%
People Trained	2,057	4,356	+ 112%
INTELLIGENCE			
Informants Documented	10	28	1.8
Intelligence Reports	42	141	2.36
INVESTIGATIONS			
Active Investigations	19	84	3.42
Special Operations	26	46	0.77
Investigation Reports	121	230	0.9

Program Title: Regional Gang Suppression

Regional Gang Suppression Units have been established in three New Jersey counties having a high concentration of gang activity (Essex, Passaic, Union). The suppression programs involve a coordinated effort among state, county, and local law enforcement personnel to identify, analyze and suppress gang activity. The Units are also actively involved in the Northern New Jersey Regional Gang Task Force at the Police Institute of Rutgers University.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- Three county gang suppression units established
- 166 gang members arrested
- 1,488 gang members /associates identified
- 323 gang awareness presentations conducted in local communities

In their first year of operation, the three county gang units made significant progress in gathering and sharing gang intelligence information, investigating gang organizations, and conducting gang awareness seminars in their communities. The Essex Gang Unit is currently engaged in the prosecution of several members of the United Blood Nation (Bloods). Forty-two members of the street gang were arrested and charged with a number of offences, including racketeering conspiracy. The racketeering indictments are believed to be the first RICO prosecutions by the state against a street gang.

Passaic County is a prime example of an agency that coordinates many strategies that are funded through separate grant programs. Information sharing is enhanced by the Gang Suppression Unit's co-location with the county narcotics task force. Juvenile gang involvement among youth on probation and parole is closely monitored through the Paterson Village Initiative. The Police

Community Partnership Program addresses crime and quality of life problems in the city of Paterson. The Department of Corrections sponsored Gang Awareness and Prevention program is a dynamic prevention tool that has been presented in many of the schools throughout the county. Finally, the Community Justice program balances suppression efforts with strong community outreach.

Program Title: Computer and Technology Crimes

The Division of Criminal Justice established a Computer Analysis and Technology Unit (CATU) to investigate and prosecute internet and computer-related crimes. The initiative targets persons who commit traditional crimes with computers as well as those who are involved in technologically complex, non-traditional computer crimes. The Unit provides assistance on computer-related cases to other sections within the Division and to county and local law enforcement agencies.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- 49 cases opened
- 14 search warrants executed
- 26 arrests
- 18 state grand jury indictments
- 13 guilty pleas
- 142 computers examined; 1,156 computer discs examined

Follow-up continued on last year's massive Operation Web Sweep, the cyber-sting operation that was initiated by CATU working in conjunction with state, federal, and international law enforcement authorities. As many as 200 people in 16 countries were identified in activities that involved the possession or distribution of child pornographic images via the Internet. To date, nine individuals have pled guilty, and there are another 13 indictments against area residents involved in the sweep. Additional cases are being prosecuted by various state and federal authorities.

The computer crimes unit continued undercover, proactive investigations of crimes committed over the Internet. Arrests resulting from illegal Internet activity included additional child pornography crimes, an Internet auction scam, fraud involving the sale of bogus, high grade

collectible sports cards, a date-rape drug ring, and arrests for endangering the welfare of children.

The Attorney General launched the nationally recognized Safety Net Program in New Jersey at presentations for parents and students in several school districts throughout the state. This program, part of the state's prevention and outreach efforts, guides students and parents through various Internet locations, and explains how sexual predators can obtain detailed information about children and teenagers without their knowledge. The program is being coordinated by CATU.

New computer crimes legislation was enacted in April 2003. This progressive law takes into account the technological advances that have spawned Internet-related criminal activity. The Unit is also aggressively involved in drafting bills and lobbying for sweeping reforms in the area of child pornography and other high technology crimes.

COMMUNITY BASED PARTNERSHIPS

Police Community Partnership Programs

Atlantic City	\$ 600,000
Paterson	\$ 600,000
Jersey City	\$ 600,000
Perth Amboy	\$ 600,000
Newark	\$1,000,000
Newark Safer Cities Initiative	\$ 70,987
Paterson Village Initiative	\$ 270,578

Program Title: Police Community Partnership Programs

Police Community Partnership Programs involve a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary approach to urban crime, violence, and deteriorating social conditions. A wide variety of resources are concentrated in the target areas of the participating cities. These include enhanced law enforcement efforts, highly visible police presence, educational and recreational opportunities for residents of the target area, and physical improvements to the neighborhood. While local programs are tailored to impact specific problems that are plaguing the target neighborhood, each of the programs incorporates the following major components: Community Policing, the Violent Offender Removal Program (VORP), the establishment of Safe Havens for area youth and residents, and Neighborhood Revitalization.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- Five projects in high-crime, urban neighborhoods
- 54 community police officers hired for designated target areas
- 907 young people enrolled in after school Safe Haven Programs
- 1,547 violent offenders removed from streets
- millions of dollars in neighborhood revitalization projects

Five Police Community Partnership Programs in Atlantic City, Jersey City, Paterson, Perth Amboy, and Newark addressed specific crime and quality of life problems in designated urban neighborhoods.

The city of Newark's Partners Against Crime Program (PAC) began with the hiring of 19 community police officers. In the first year of operation, the officers concentrated on quality of life issues by instituting a zero tolerance policy against gambling, loitering, panhandling, and open drug

sales in the target area. A total of 2,713 summonses were issued, and 1,144 business checks were conducted; 268 residential and commercial fire inspections were completed (resulting in 47 violations); and 355 violations were cited by the code enforcement officer. The municipal attorney assigned to the program ensured that all infractions committed in the target area were prosecuted swiftly and to the fullest extent of the law. The city chose two sites for the Safe Haven program, a local gymnasium and the Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church. Over 140 children participated in educational and recreational activities made possible through the grant. A successful summer camp supplemented the after school programs. Community Career and Health Fairs, hosted by the PAC unit officers, attracted hundreds of residents. An indicator of the success of Newark's PAC program is the revitalization that is taking place in the "grid." New homes are being built, businesses are moving into the area, and citizens are patronizing businesses that were once avoided due to fear of harassment or fear of becoming a victim of crime.

The Atlantic City, Jersey City, and Paterson programs concluded their four years of Byrne funding during this reporting period. Due to the success of the programs, both cities have committed funding and resources to continue the partnership strategy beyond the life of the grant.

The Police Community Partnership Programs have had a positive impact in the four participating cities. Citizens in the target area reported a greater sense of security, and they participated to a greater extent in efforts to reduce crime in their neighborhoods. Mutual respect developed between the police and community members. The concentrated resources of the Partnership strategy stabilized the target areas, improved the quality of life for law-abiding citizens, and provided important prevention measures to keep children safe from drugs and gang involvement.

Program Title: Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiatives

The Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiative (GNSCI) is a collaborative partnership among criminal justice agencies and community, academic, social service, treatment, private business, and faith-based groups. The GNSCI is an ongoing problem solving process that focuses on violence, and the community-wide effect of violence in the city of Newark and surrounding areas. Two strategies have been developed as part of the initiative. The first strategy focuses on the identification of adult probationers and parolees identified as at-risk of becoming victims or perpetrators of violent crimes. The second component, the Gun Strategy Pilot Program, is designed to establish a more effective case management system for the prosecution of gun violence offenses.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- 238 high-risk probationers and parolees enrolled in program
- Over 28 percent of GNSCI clients obtained jobs or job training
- 40 participants provided with substance abuse treatment
- \$85,000 average bail for Gun Strategy Pilot Program
- Program to be replicated in city of Camden

(The performance summary of Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiative is included in the Rutgers Police Institute Report under the Law Enforcement Services and Training Section).

Program Title: Paterson Village Initiative

The Patterson Village Initiative involves a collaborative effort among police, probation, and parole to address the needs of juvenile offenders in the city of Paterson. Police officers partner with probation and parole officers to conduct home visits, curfew checks, and to monitor the activities of juvenile probationers during non-traditional hours. The program mobilizes local service providers to ensure that juveniles and their families have access to needed assistance.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- 28 percent decline in Paterson's juvenile crime rate
- Six percent decline in Paterson school drop-out rate
- 31 percent decline in juvenile custodial commitments from Passaic County
- Violation of probation rate drops from 53 percent in 1996 to 5.2 percent in 2003
- Village Initiative recognized nationally as one of the most outstanding and innovative programs in the country

Probation and police officers continued to closely monitor juvenile offenders in the city of Paterson through 1,849 home contacts and 291 field contacts. The Operational Board met biweekly to review the status of the program, to plan new initiatives, and to expand partnerships. One hundred seventy-three (173) juveniles attended a series of 13 auto theft classes. Fourteen Youth Character Development courses were conducted with 266 youths participating. Alliances with school officials at three Paterson high schools were maintained, and 38 community events attracted 4,413 participants.

The Health Improvement Project is a unique component of the Village Initiative that was developed in partnership with St. Joseph's Hospital. As a result of the trust that has been built between police, probation officers, and members of the community, health care professionals now accompany the officers into the homes of the juvenile offenders to address the medical needs of the youths and their families.

The Village Initiative has broken new ground in dealing with juvenile offenders and continues to explore creative ways to assist these young people with the life skills needed to become productive, law abiding adults.

SAFE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

Local Safe Schools and Communities Projects	(\$746,325)
Gang Awareness and Prevention Program	(\$144,964)

Program Title: Safe Schools and Communities Initiatives

In November 2001, the Division of Criminal Justice instituted a Safe Schools and Communities Initiative in partnership with the Departments of State, Education, Transportation, Corrections, the Division of State Police, and the Juvenile Justice Commission. The initiative focuses on addressing public safety issues in schools and communities, and it includes a gang education and prevention component.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

Local Safe Schools and Communities Projects

- 14 new programs implemented

The Safe Schools and Communities Initiative provided an opportunity for several of the state's smaller police departments to address problems that are unique to their jurisdictions. Many of the programs were developed in partnership with schools and community groups to address youth issues such as school violence, truancy, and delinquent behavior. An indicator of the success of these programs is the relationships that have been established between police officers and the young people in their communities. Trust, respect and mutual understanding have resulted. The following is a sampling of the positive impact that has been achieved under the Safe Schools and Communities Initiative.

In a productive, though challenging first year, the Egg Harbor Township Police Department implemented a Juvenile Diversion/Mentoring Program. After a review of 450 cases involving juvenile arrests and criminal complaints, 80 juveniles were identified as eligible to participate in the program, and 41 juveniles were enrolled. As of June 30, 2003, two youths successfully completed the diversion program and five were dismissed due to criminal complaints or re-arrest. The program's

restorative justice component heightened the juvenile offenders' awareness of the impact of their actions. The 390 hours of community service performed by the juveniles benefitted both the youth and the community at large. Educational trips with police officer mentors exposed the youths to new experiences. The impact of the program on the lives of children and their families is noted in a thank-you letter from a mother of one of the participants; "I believe my son's association with you and the other fine officers at the Egg Harbor Township Police Department will ultimately influence him of the benefits of being a law-abider and not a law-breaker."

The community youth resource officer assigned to the Fisher Middle School in Ewing Township has made positive inroads with students, school officials, and the community through the Safe Schools and Communities grant. The funds have allowed the officer to institute prevention and intervention programs that are aimed at reducing the number of offenses that occur on school grounds. In addition to teaching structured drug prevention classes to 7th grade students, the successes attained in the program's first year include: establishing a zero tolerance policy at the school for gang activity; a truancy reduction program involving students, counselors, and parents; educating the school staff on drug awareness; mentoring selected students throughout the school year; implementing a Criminal Justice System curriculum for 90 Honors English students; establishing a Youth Police Academy in which 18 youth are enrolled; hosting a gang awareness dinner at which 450 students and parents attended, and a drug awareness night attended by 350 individuals. The acceptance of the community youth resource officer in the school is evidenced by the students' enthusiastic participation in the various activities and the trust that has been built between them. Teachers are appreciative of the information they receive on drug, gangs and criminal activity and, in turn, cooperate with law enforcement officials on investigations. Students, parents,

teachers, and the school administrative staff concur that the presence and involvement of the community youth resource officer has created a safer school environment.

The Newark Safe Schools grant involves an aggressive Truancy and Curfew Enforcement Program. This creative response to delinquent juvenile behavior utilizes police officers and Newark Public School counselors to patrol designated areas of high truancy. Additional police personnel conduct night time patrols in areas with high concentrations of gang activity. Since its inception in November 2002, police officers assigned to the project conducted field interviews of 5,796 suspected truants, apprehended 3,915 truants, arrested 176 individuals, and issued 360 summons. Truant students are counseled by law enforcement and school officials and placed back in classrooms. Repeat offenders face arrest, and parents and legal guardians of habitual truants are held liable for their children's behavior. The program also has had a positive impact on the community at large. Quality of life issues have abated as a result of the juveniles being removed from the streets.

A Domestic Violence Awareness Program in the town of Runnemede has had a measurable impact on victims and families involved in domestic disputes. The Runnemede Police Department made enhancements to their VAWA Program by instituting a public awareness campaign that informs victims of their rights and of the resources that are available to them. A mass mailing disseminated information relating to domestic violence and available services. The program also partnered with the county's Traumatic Loss Coalition to host a seminar on assisting children who have witnessed violence and/or trauma. The Runnemede Police Department reported the following statistics that relate to the Safe Schools and Communities Program. Although there was no significant change in the total number of reports of domestic violence incidents as compared to the previous year, there was a shift in numbers relating to violent and non violent incidents. Between

September 2002 and August 2003, a 16 percent increase in the reporting of non-violence offenses occurred, and there was a 12.5 percent decrease in reporting of assaults and related offenses; there was a 14 percent decrease in the number of arrests for domestic violence offenses. The number of requests for emergency temporary restraining orders rose 92 percent during the reporting period. The Domestic Violence Response Team met with 31 victims of domestic violence; a service that was not previously available. Thirteen families were provided emergency family counseling, and three “batterers’ group sessions were conducted. Police officials believe that as a direct result of Runnemedes’ awareness program, victims of domestic violence are notifying police at a much earlier stage and that they are taking advantage of the resources that are available to them. A notable reduction in violence in the households considered “repeat offenders” is another milestone for the program.

The juvenile officer from the Sayerville Police Department established positive working relationships with school officials and the county probation department through the township’s Safe Schools and Communities Program. In its initial year, school administration officials credited the Safe Schools and Communities Initiative with a 50 percent reduction in truancy. During the reporting period, 75 students identified as habitual truants were referred to the Juvenile Aid Bureau. In addition to providing intense supervision to the students, participants were also provided a range of services that included counseling and social and mental health referrals where needed. All 75 of the students referred to the program have remained in school. Additional at-risk youth who are under court-ordered restrictions are being identified and more closely monitored through the partnerships established between the juvenile police officers and the county probation officers.

The addition of a community police officer in the small Borough of Stratford has allowed the police department to be in tune with the concerns of the community and to take a proactive approach to crime reduction. As part of the Safe Schools and Community Initiative, the newly hired community police officer actively engaged the community in crime prevention efforts. New initiatives made possible through grant funding included: implementation of a bike patrol; school-based safety programs; monthly crime prevention meetings and the establishment of a Town Watch program; response to quality of life problems; and daily contacts with citizens, businesses, and youth to better understand the issues that are affecting the community.

An after school youth program was instituted at the Linwood Middle School to deter young people from becoming involved in delinquent behavior during unsupervised, after school hours. Conceived and operated by a North Brunswick juvenile detective, this popular program is also designed to combat bullying and violence in the schools. The 125 students enrolled in the program participate in a junior police academy, receive homework assistance, and explore a number of other interests that include dance, health and fitness programs, computer classes, and digital photography.

The New Milford Police Department partnered with the town's Board of Education and Recreation Department to establish a youth center that has made the school environment an extension of the youth community. Adopting the theme, *Something to Do, Somewhere to Go*, young people and parents alike are assured of supervised, constructive activity at the high school auditorium on the first Friday of each month. The police department's community police officer and the school resource officer oversee the monthly events at the Youth Center. Balancing a mix of recreational and sports activities with educational, safety, and prevention programs, the goal of the program is to teach life skills and values to young people in a non-threatening environment. The contributions of the

community, businesses, and the public and private sectors have not only added resources to the program, but have demonstrated a commitment to the youth of the town. The impact of the program's first year is far reaching. The Center attracts a cross section of the student population, including a growing immigrant population. By actively promoting social interaction, the lines between cliques and social barriers are beginning to blur. This positive effect carries over into the classrooms and on the school grounds. The Center also allows the community police and the school resource officers the opportunity to maintain ties with the youth and to reinforce prevention strategies throughout the year. The relationship that has developed between the officers and the youth is one of trust and mutual respect. The decrease in vandalism at the high school is believed to be a direct result of the sense of ownership that the children have developed for the program. Overall, there has been an approximate 60 percent decrease in juvenile incidents since the program's inception. Youth willingly provide police officials with information on issues and incidents before these incidents result in juvenile complaints.

Statewide Gang Awareness and Prevention Program

- New Jersey partnered with the ATF to become the first state in the nation to implement Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) of a statewide initiative
- 115 officers certified for G.R.E.A.T. in first round of a statewide training program
- 10,150 inquiries to gang education website
- 297 Gang Awareness and Prevention Program (GAPP) presentations provide a personal, first hand account of the consequences of gang membership to over 25,000 students, teachers, and community members
- \$25,000 in mini-grants awarded for middle and high school anti-gang activities

The New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice partnered with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to become the first state in the nation to implement G.R.E.A.T. as a statewide initiative. Recognizing the lure of gangs that young people face in their schools and communities, the state is enhancing gang enforcement and suppression efforts with prevention and intervention measures. G.R.E.A.T. instructors were brought into the state for a series of three regional training seminars. A total of 115 police officers achieved certification to teach the G.R.E.A.T. curriculum in their schools and communities. Additional training classes are being planned for next year.

The Division of Criminal Justice's educational web site continues to serve as a reference point on gang-related information. Information on the site includes a bulletin board to post questions to gang experts and a prevention guide for parents. Over 10,000 inquiries have been recorded. A new statewide gang education program and media campaign are being developed for release in the Spring of 2004.

A Byrne-funded program at the Department of Corrections is having a strong impact on young people's perception of gang life. The Gang Awareness and Prevention Program (GAPP) utilizes an inmate with former gang affiliations to give presentations depicting the dangers of gang membership at schools, at probation and juvenile detention facilities, and at community and professional organizations. During the reporting period, 297 GAPP presentations provided a personal, first hand account of the consequences of gang involvement to over 25,000 individuals. In small, intimate classroom settings, approximately 21,000 students heard of the realities of gang membership, and had the opportunity to ask questions and voice concerns.

The Department of Law and Public Safety partnered with the Department of State to fund mini-grants for a gang-free component of the Secretary of State's *V-Free* (Violence, Vandalism, Victimization) Program. Youth sponsored activities ranging from urban sports competitions to gang awareness events were supported by the grants. The mini-grant program will be continued in the Department of Law and Public and will be coordinated with the state's Safe Schools and Communities Initiative.

DRUG TREATMENT

Mountainview Therapeutic Community Program (NuView)	(\$188,600)
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Treatment Assessment Services for the Courts Programs	(\$177,324)
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Atlantic/Cape May

Morris/Sussex

Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren

**Program Title: Mountainview Therapeutic Community Treatment Program
(NuView)**

NuView is an 83-bed therapeutic community treatment program that was implemented in August 2001 at the Mountainview Correctional Facility. Therapeutic community treatment is based on the concept of a continuous treatment team model for substance abusers who have had a history of repetitive failures in addiction treatment services. The program creates a therapeutic setting designed to give addicts adequate time and support for physical, behavioral, cognitive, and emotional recovery. It utilizes a treatment approach based on abstinence from drugs of abuse, and the AA and NA philosophy. Clients live, work, and socialize in the therapeutic community. Socialization, relapse prevention, peer support, vocational activities, and living skills are incorporated into the program to assist clients to develop life skills and exert positive control over the symptoms of their addiction.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- 145 new admissions
- 82 residents enrolled
- 389 drug tests administered, 0 testing positive
- 61 successful completions
- NuView selected for pilot accreditation project by the American Correctional Association.

In October 2002, the New Jersey Department of Corrections contracted with the Gateway Foundation, Inc. for the delivery of substance abuse treatment services. The Gateway Foundation replaces the previous private contract provider, Correctional Medical Services (CMS).

A total of 145 new inmates were admitted to the NuView program, with an actual resident count of 82. As required by DOC policy, 20 percent of the residents were randomly tested for substance abuse use. None of the results tested positive. As part of their ongoing treatment plan, residents attended 751 group counseling sessions, 200 Gateway staff lectures, and 108 resident-based lectures. One hundred twenty-seven (127) treatment plans were completed. There were 61 successful completions of the therapeutic community treatment program at NuView. Administrative discharges totaled 32, and 66 residents were unfavorably discharged. The high rate of administrative and unfavorable discharges are attributed to two factors. A number of the residents were released to the court-based Intensive Supervision Program or to Parole prior to completion; other residents were released because of time ineligibility.

The New Jersey Department of Corrections was selected by the American Correctional Association (ACA) to participate in a pilot accreditation project of its therapeutic community substance use disorder treatment program. Due to its early success, the NuView Program at the Mountainview facility was chosen as the site of the pilot project. Participation in the project will allow New Jersey to be among the first correctional facilities in the nation to receive this important accreditation. The DOC's goal is to achieve accreditation for all of its treatment programs.

Program Title: Treatment Assessment Services for the Courts

The TASC program in New Jersey is based on a national program designed to break the addiction/crime cycle of non-violent, drug-involved offenders. The program links drug-using offenders within the criminal justice system to community-based drug abuse treatment as an alternative or supplement to criminal penalties. Substance abuse evaluators identify, assess, and make treatment referrals for defendants at various levels in the adjudicative process; including pretrial intervention, pre-sentencing, probationers and juveniles in the Family Division. Drug assessment tools are used to provide expert information to the courts on viable alternatives for drug offenders. TASC is integrally involved in New Jersey's drug court programs, and the substance abuse evaluators hired pursuant to TASC are members of the drug court teams.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- Three TASC programs supported with Byrne funds
- 763 substance abuse assessments
- 664 defendants referred to treatment
- 405 urine tests performed
- 443 cases monitored by TASC specialists

Byrne funding has assisted in expanding access to TASC programs from three to 21 counties. At least one substance evaluator is assigned to every New Jersey Superior Court vicinage. The assessments and recommendations by TASC specialists are crucial in assisting the Courts in rendering decisions on bail, pretrial intervention, and sentencing. TASC programs are also a critical factor in the operation of the state's drug courts. TASC programs are recognized by the New Jersey

Judiciary as successful and necessary components of the criminal justice process, and as such, all previously Byrne-funded TASC programs have been sustained through state appropriations.

In this reporting period, the Administrative Office of the Courts was awarded funds for three TASC programs in the vicinages of Cape May, Somerset, and Sussex. The TASC evaluators conducted drug assessments for the courts at a rate to 12 to 15 per week for each jurisdiction. Training for court personnel on the characteristics of chemical dependency, treatment, and the recovery process was provided on a quarterly basis. Evaluators maintained monthly contacts with referring agents, treatment providers, and auxiliary services to monitor clients' progress. Statewide training for TASC personnel included CADIC and Criminal Justice Counselor courses to attain and maintain credentials, drug testing procedures training, two ASAM seminars, regular drug court team meetings and monthly meetings of the Conference of Drug Courts, and summer sessions for Alcohol and Drug Studies at Rutgers University.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Criminal Justice Record Improvements	(\$681,968)
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(Five-Percent Set Aside)

Program Title: Criminal Justice System Improvements

Program Activities

Five Percent Set-Aside

Established in 1990, the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Policy Committee meets monthly to plan and discuss projects funded under the Byrne Five-Percent Set-Aside Program and other sources of federal financial support. The CJIS Committee includes representatives from the Department of Law and Public Safety, members from the Office of the Attorney General, the Division of State Police, the Division of Criminal Justice, and the Juvenile Justice Commission. Also represented at the meetings are the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Department of Corrections, the Office of Information Technology, the Office of Management and Budget, the State Chiefs of Police, and County Jail Wardens.

The CJIS Committee oversees criminal justice information projects funded under the Byrne Five Percent Set-Aside Program as well as those projects being implemented under the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP), the Advanced State Awards Program (ASAP), the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), and the National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR) Program.

Performance Indicators/Program Accomplishments

- Purchase of 13 live scan fingerprinting workstations for state and local police departments
- Supplemental Byrne grant provides 14 live scan systems for county jails to assist with interstate fugitive initiative
- Installation of a mugshot component to the Department of Corrections' live scan system
- Continuing support for the electronic posting of court disposition data

New Jersey Criminal Records Improvement Program (Five Percent Set-Aside) continued to make enhancements for an integrated state information system. The FY 2002 funds were allocated to the Division of State Police, the Department of Corrections (DOC), and the Administration Office of the Courts (AOC).

The grant to the Division of State Police allowed the Division to expand its statewide criminal justice live scan fingerprinting system. Thirteen live scan workstations were purchased for installation at nine, high arrest local police departments and at four State Police Road Stations. The number of live scan fingerprinting workstations now totals 140 statewide. The stations account for over 70 percent of all criminal arrest fingerprinting submissions. State Police are in the process of developing a central mugshot repository. Once completed, mugshot workstations will be purchased to interface with the live scan equipment.

In a separate Byrne allocation, digital fingerprint technology was made available to 13 county jails and to the state Division of Criminal Justice. This project advanced the work of the New Jersey/New York Regional Fugitive Task Force by linking all 21 county jails and the Division to an interstate fugitive data base.

A DOCMIS mugshot component was added to the DOC's live scan workstation. Once the State Police central mugshot repository is operational, the DOC's data base will be included in the statewide system.

CJRI funds also continued to support two Information Technology Analysts positions in the AOC to oversee the court's PROMIS/Gavel and CCIS integrated systems. The technological advances in the courts have resulted in disposition data being electronically posted to the state criminal history records within 48 hours of adjudication.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AND TRAINING

Advocacy Institute	(\$135,000)
The Rutgers Police Institute	(\$375,000)
New Jersey Narcotics Enforcement Officers' Assn.	(\$ 5,000)
East Coast Gang Investigators' Assn.	(\$ 10,500)

Program Title: Law Enforcement Services and Training

Advocacy Institute

The Advocacy Institute offers a wide range of training programs for attorneys, para professionals, investigators, county prosecutors, and public defenders. Faculty for the Institute is comprised of talented attorneys and teachers from private practice, government agencies, and law school professors.

- 28 programs conducted; 1,284 attendees
- Training seminars conducted in the reporting period include: two Distinguished Lawyer Seminars; New Jersey Civil Case Law Development; Nuts and Bolts Seminars; 17 practical performance workshops; four (five-day) Trial Advocacy Skills Programs; four In-House Trial Skills sessions; Criminal Trial Advocacy Skills Program; (two-day) Bringing a RICO Prosecution Skills Program; two (three-day) intensive Deposition Skills Programs; three (2-day) programs in Negotiation Skills; two (three-day) How to be an Effective Advocate in Mediation; two Public Defender Train the Trainers programs; (two-day) Examination of Expert Skills Program.
- The Institute assisted the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) in planning, developing and conducting two, week-long Trial Advocacy Academies for governmental attorneys throughout the country. New Jersey also assisted the NAAG Antitrust Task Force in developing their training curriculum.

The Rutgers Police Institute

The Police Institute conducts research and provides policy guidelines for effective policing practices. In addition to the Newark Safer Cities Initiative, the Institute is involved in a number of

ongoing research/training programs that benefit the law enforcement community. A state appropriation will continue the work of the Institute in 2004.

Policy and research issues conducted at the Institute in the reporting period include the following:

1. Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiative (GNSCI)

The Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiative is the first partnership of its kind in New Jersey and one of the leading collaborative efforts in the country. Its purpose is to reduce violence in Newark and the surrounding municipalities. With the Police Institute serving as the neutral convener, the GNSCI represents a partnership among criminal justice and governmental agencies, community leaders, social service providers, clergy, and private business. GNSCI includes the following activities.

GNSCI Working Group and Subcommittees: The GNSCI program began in earnest when representatives of state, local, and federal criminal justice agencies began meeting as a Working Group in 1999, tasked with developing an understanding of the nature of violence in Newark, and planning and implementing a comprehensive strategy to prevent and reduce violence. During the summer 2000, the Working Group formally expanded to include representatives from the faith community, social service and treatment providers, and other community representatives. By early 2001, community representatives in the GNSCI had taken the initiative and moved into “cooperative leadership” roles alongside law enforcement agencies. As a combined group of criminal justice and community representatives, the Working Group now meets bi-weekly, spearheading the work of the entire project. In addition, four subcommittees formed to facilitate more efficient planning and implementation within the following specific arenas: criminal justice tactics, social service/treatment provision, faith-based initiatives, and community initiatives.

At-Risk Caseload: Crime data from Newark, and criminological research generally, show that a small number of violent offenders commit a disproportionately high percentage of violent crimes. The first intervention strategy developed by the GNSCI Working Group focuses on individuals on probation or parole who are identified as at-risk of becoming victims or perpetrators of violence. A variety of conditions are associated with being placed in the GNSCI At-Risk Group. First, through *notification sessions*, at-risk individuals are brought together and given two messages: 1) swift and sure criminal justice consequences will result if they engage in future violence and, 2) they have immediate access to a wide range of programs from social service and treatment providers, counseling from clergy, and educational/employment training. The individual progress of each at-risk individual is closely monitored through *case conference sessions*, where a small group of parole and probation officers, prosecutors, public defenders, social service providers, and clergy meet privately to assure that each person is provided with the appropriate services and/or receives the appropriate sanctions. In addition, at-risk group members are required to attend *accountability sessions*, where their progress is publicly assessed in front of their peers and supervising officers.

Gun Strategy Pilot Program: The Gun Strategy Pilot Program is one example of a specific GNSCI initiative designed to deal with a small cadre of offenders that continue to threaten Newark's neighborhoods by carrying guns and committing crimes with firearms, but who are not under probation or parole supervision. Working in collaboration with GNSCI community efforts, the program is essentially a method of examining the extant case processing system and making it more effective at dealing with individuals who have serious criminal histories and are arrested with firearms. As a result of the program, court decision makers, including judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys, are better informed on decisions regarding case screening, bail procedures, and

plea negotiations. The gun strategy also seeks to prioritize gun and gun violence cases: in addition to the creation of a vertical prosecution unit, the Essex County Superior Court Assignment Judge established an individual calendar for priority case processing of gun strategy cases. The pilot program has also resulted in a number of federal Trigger Lock cases.

- After Newark experienced an increase in homicides in 2001, the GNSCI adjusted tactics (for example, see gun strategy above). That year, Newark experienced a dramatic decrease in homicide rates; this decrease is attributed in part to the efforts of the Working Group. It should be noted that analyses reveal a slight increase in homicide rates (+6.2%) for the year July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003. However, preliminary data since January 1, 2003 point to an overall reduction in violence-related criminal activity. For example, shootings (-2%), robberies (-22%), and sex crimes (-10%) are down, while firearm recovery is up (+16%).
- The Police Institute hired a Community Outreach Coordinator, who works with neighborhood groups, community organizers, and representatives of minority communities, to help build relationships between these groups and the law enforcement community. The Police Institute will sponsor the second annual community safety forum in October 2003. The forum is entitled: “Training the Trainers: Building Capacity to Improve Public Safety in Neighborhoods” and is geared toward the needs of neighborhood block associations and community based organizations.
- The GNSCI Working Group is currently pursuing ways to supervise and provide services to Gun Strategy defendants who make bail. Recently, while out on bail, several have been arrested for committing homicides and one has been the victim of a homicide. Community residents find this situation intolerable and asked that the GNSCI find ways to prevent those

out on bail from becoming involved in violence.

- GNSCI is developing a reentry program. Working with the New Jersey State Parole Board and other partner agencies, the Working Group anticipates the release of 60 inmates, both parolees and inmates who have maxed out of prison, to become a part of the GNSCI At-Risk Caseload in October 2003. The number is expected to increase over a two-year period.

2. Camden Safer Cities Initiative

At the request of the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, the Police Institute began the Camden Safer Cities Initiative in the spring of 2002. The Camden Initiative is modeled after the GNSCI, its purpose is to create an inter-organizational capacity with the goal of reducing the unacceptable levels of violence in Camden and improve the quality of life for its citizens. Still in its infancy, the initiative is currently identifying the stakeholders from the Camden community (criminal justice agencies, social service and treatment providers, neighborhood groups, the faith and business communities, etc.) and gaining their commitment to a partnership designed to reduce violence, crime, and disorder in Camden neighborhoods. As with GNSCI, the Camden Initiative is building an operational capacity that can pool partner resources, identify specific problems, and create solutions for those problems.

- The Institute entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs on July 31, 2003. The Rand Institute will serve as the neutral convener for the *Camden Safer Cities Initiative*.
- *Camden Safer Cities Initiative* Executive Committee will meet September 24, 2003.

3. Stop Data Committee

National attention has been focused on New Jersey and the state police because of racial profiling.

To gain a better understanding of the issues, the Police Institute, acting as the neutral convener, has brought together an interdisciplinary committee, comprised of representatives from the Office of the Attorney General, the New Jersey State Police, the Black Ministers Council, and other groups. This committee is examining stop-related data, as required by the consent decree, and other information to better inform police policy, procedures, and practice.

- The committee's first meeting was held on January 28, 2003 (it has since held nine meetings).
- The committee decided that it needed to take the broadest view of the issue raised by the stop data. The broad approach was taken partly because the committee was not satisfied that the issue of profiling had been resolved either nationally or in New Jersey. For example, the racial profiling issues in New Jersey went beyond the State Police: evidence in other communities, Los Angeles is one example, suggested that local police were sitting atop this explosive issue as well. The committee believed that it was better to confront the issue immediately and devise programmatic and policy mechanisms to deal with it, rather than to wait for it to happen and then respond.
- Consistent with a broad approach, the committee decided that it wanted to educate itself in two dimensions: first, it wanted to understand both the strengths and weaknesses of the best empirical work that had been done in the area of profiling and racial profiling; second, the committee wanted to understand fully the political, social, and ideological dimensions of the issue. Consequently, the committee invited both outstanding scholars and advocates (on both sides of the issue) to their meetings. The following speakers presented their ideas during committee meetings of March and April 2003:

- Dr. Matthew Zingraff, North Carolina State University
- Ms. Heather Mac Donald, Manhattan Institute
- Dr. Samuel Walker, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Professor Randall Kennedy, Harvard Law School
- It is anticipated that a draft report detailing the committee's conclusions will be available in September 2003.

4. Executive Development Program

The Police Institute created an Executive Development Center to provide an advanced curriculum for upper-level management in the New Jersey State Police and for other law enforcement agencies. In collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General, this program provides the skills and knowledge necessary for the successful transition from a police officer to a police administrator. Preeminent scholars and practitioners, from across the nation and within Rutgers University, provided training on such topics as strategic planning, fiscal management, advanced technology, program evaluation, and problem analysis.

- The first course was offered April 28 through May 9, 2003 and included 20 officers from New Jersey State Police, one officer from Newark police department, and one officer from the Elizabeth police department.
- The next course will be held September 29 through October 10, 2003.
- Additionally, the Police Institute will establish a series of monthly lectures on issues related to policing, criminal justice, and executive leadership. The first lecture will be held on September 29, 2003 with guest speaker Chief William J. Bratton of the Los Angeles Police Department. For a complete listing of speakers, please visit www.policeinstitute.org.

5. Counter Terrorism Information Sharing Consortium

In the summer and fall of 2002, the Manhattan Institute, a policy research think tank, convened two meetings with over thirty concerned police leaders, security executives, and terrorism and policing experts. The purpose of the meetings was to allow the leaders of the gathered law enforcement and security agencies to talk openly about how to create effective, locally-based anti-terror capabilities. The ideas that changed policing and led to dramatic reductions in crime across the United States were generated and implemented at the local level. The same has to be done for terrorism.

Consequently, the Consortium (also known as the I-95 group) was created for two reasons: first, to address concerns about how terrorist-related information was being shared between federal authorities and those at the local and state levels responsible for safety and security in their respective jurisdictions and, second, to demonstrate how information can be communicated laterally among police and security agencies. The purpose of the CISC is to share experienced-based information that may be potentially terrorist-related, such as anomalies confronted in the conduct of routine police patrol, problem solving, and investigative activities, and to share best practices.

- Over 25 state and local agencies located along the I-95 corridor, from Maryland to Massachusetts, meet monthly at the Rutgers Center for the Law and Justice.
- The Police Institute will host a conference in October 2003, co-sponsored with the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, entitled: “Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Intentional Threats”. Participants will include representatives from MI-5, Scotland Yard, domestic police leaders, and security executives.
- The CISC was profiled in an article in the Sunday *New York Times* on April 27, 2003.

6. Regional Auto-Theft Task Force

Recognizing that auto-theft is often a multi-jurisdictional problem that calls for a coordinated effort, the Police Institute has brought together the Auto-Theft Task Force. This group, modeled off of GNSCI, is a collaboration that brings together researchers, police and criminal justice officials, and private industry (including investigators from insurance and car rental agencies) for the purposes of expanding the understanding of auto theft and crafting interventions to prevent it. The objectives of the Auto-Theft Task Force include the following: 1) improving the availability of information about auto-theft in New Jersey (including the development of a standardized, state-wide auto-theft report form, 2) developing a regional crime analysis capability, 3) identifying strategies for reducing auto theft in New Jersey (including analyses of repeat offenders), and 4) implementing and evaluating promising strategies regarding auto-theft in New Jersey.

- The Police Institute will host an auto theft conference, co-sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, October 16-18, 2003. Panel topics for the conference will include: theft for exporting purposes, improving registration, vehicle immobilization, crime analysis for local and regional action etc.

7. North Jersey Gang Task Force

The Police Institute's Regional Gang Initiative is a collaborative effort among law enforcement agencies and community organizations that has the aim of addressing the growing gang problem in northeastern New Jersey. In particular, this project first seeks to define the respective type, territory, criminal enterprise, and organization of the numerous gangs that exist in the region. This analysis will serve the function of informing a multifaceted initiative that has the aim of dismantling these gangs, thus reducing violence and improving the quality of life in New Jersey communities.

Researchers from the Police Institute and analysts from the New Jersey State Police and Division

of Criminal Justice are examining line officers' experience-based information on gang activity within northeastern New Jersey in three primary ways. Each form of analysis will address a particular aspect of gang activity, which will collectively inform a forthcoming law enforcement initiative. In particular, the analysis seeks to answer the *where*, the *what*, the *who*, and the *why* of gang presence and activity in the area. Upon completion of these analytic activities, the task force will identify appropriate community, social service, faith, and private partners for the purpose of developing a sustained, community-wide approach to the gang problem in neighborhoods and communities.

- The North Jersey Gang Task Force meets bi-weekly and actively analyzes the nature and shape of the gang problem in Essex, Union, Passaic, and Hudson counties.
- Early indications suggest a significant overlap among towns with regards to gang types, gang structure, and prominent gang members. Additionally, gang activity seems to be pervasive, with a significant portion of gang members engaging in cross-jurisdictional activities.
- Analyses now include geographical mapping and network analysis, which reveal interesting patterns in the social network of the groups. Specifically, the network highlights enmeshed members as well as informative correlations between social position and criminal behavior.
- The next step for the project, scheduled for the fall of 2003, is to construct and initiate intervention procedures informed by the aforementioned problem analyses – which will be folded into the strategies and tactics of the Greater Newark Safer Cities Initiative.

8. GNSCI Manuscript

Because of the successes of the GNSCI, other communities, within New Jersey and throughout the country, are looking to the project to replicate the collaborative problem solving partnership that exists. The Police Institute is currently working on an edited volume that accurately describes the

GNSCI and outlines a model that other communities can follow.

- A preliminary draft of the manuscript will become available by September 1, 2003. The expected publication date of the final product is October 1, 2004.

9. Community Justice Conference Series

The Police Institute's Community Justice Conference Series is a set of interconnected discussions that vary in topical concern, but share the common theme of working to improve the dialogue among criminal justice agencies and communities, thereby moving current criminal justice practices toward a new paradigm of community justice: a paradigm in which community members grant authority, set priorities, participate in crafting strategies, and judge outcomes for crime control efforts. Topics included in the series included:

- Community Expectations and Law Enforcement Responsibility Summit (September 2001)
- Bias Crimes Conference (November 2001)
- Community Policing and Civic Leadership in Northern Ireland Conference (December 2001)
- Auto-Theft Summit (April 2002)
- Law Enforcement Leaders Summit (July 2002)
- Regional Gang Summit (September 2002)
- Public Safety Community Conference (October 2002)
- Community Safety Forum (October 2003)

10. Brown-Bag Lecture Series

The Police Institute's Brown Bag Lecture Series is a regular series of lunchtime discussions at Rutgers-Newark whereby scholars and practitioners are invited to present on current policy research. These symposiums, which are open to the public, are meant as a forum for an exchange of ideas on topics related to criminal justice policy and problem-solving techniques. The following is a list of past lectures:

- Repeat Domestic Violence in Newark: Prevalence and Policy Opportunities (January 2002).

- The State Police: Patrol Task and Discretion (May 2002).
- Auto-Theft in Newark (December 2002).

11. Special Projects & Research and Policy Analysis

In addition to the projects described above, the Police Institute is involved in a number of other efforts, these include: *Agency Support Initiatives; State Police Traffic Enforcement Analysis; Community Policing in Northern Ireland: The Civic Project; Domestic Violence Initiative; Crime Reduction in New York City; Homicide, Shooting, and Robbery Investigation Analyses.*

New Jersey Narcotics Enforcement Officers' Association (NJNEOA)

The New Jersey Narcotics Enforcement Officers' Association has been the leading force in narcotics training for over 35 years. A small amount of Byrne funding supports the NJNEOA annual training conference.

- Over 500 law enforcement officers were trained in the latest techniques in narcotics investigations, safety procedures, and a host of other narcotics-related law enforcement strategies at the annual NJNEOA conference held in June 2003.
- Drug Abuse Identification and Awareness classes were presented by Association members to approximately 125 educators in the newly developed community outreach component.

East Coast Gang Investigators' Association (ECGIA)

The Division of Criminal partners with the East Coast Gang Investigators' Association on a number of gang-related initiatives.

- 300 law enforcement officers received up-to-date gang awareness and prevention training at the ECGIA annual conference in October 2002, and 125 educators participated in the school violence prevention component.